

MINUTES

JULY 27, 2022, 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM, SEED CENTER, 2ND FLOOR, DAVID CONNER BALLROOM

TAC MEMBERS PRESENT (QUORUM)

Nick Pestello (Port of Lake Charles) (Chair)
John Bruce (Calcasieu Parish) (Vice Chair)
Austin Abrahams (City of Sulphur)
John Cardone (City of Lake Charles)
Seth Woods (LaDOTD District 7)
Gary Gobert (Trucking/Freight)
Kevin Melton (Chennault International Airport)
Aaron McDonald (Calcasieu Parish School Board) (Non-Voting b/se of Zoom attendance)
Dawn Sholmire (LaDOTD) (Non-Voting Member)
Tina Athalone (LaDOTD) (Non-Voting Member)
Carlos McCloud (FHWA) (Non-Voting Member)

LCMPO STAFF

Michael Hollier (Executive/MPO Director)
Jamie Gaines
Steve Jiles
Walter Council
Justin Habetz
Tucker Deshotel

GUEST

Stacy Dowden (CoLC)
Angela Murrell (LaDOTD)
Kelli Van Norman (CoLC)
Jessica Pousson (Fenstermaker)

1. OPENING

A. Call to Order Roll Call

Mr. Nick Pestello, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order.

B. Roll Call

Mr Hollier called roll:
Nick Pestello (Port of Lake Charles) (Chair)
John Bruce (Calcasieu Parish) (Vice Chair)
Austin Abrahams (City of Sulphur)
John Cardone (City of Lake Charles)

Seth Woods (LaDOTD District 7)
Gary Gobert (Trucking/Freight)
Kevin Melton (Chennault International Airport)

He stated there was quorum for Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

C. Minutes (6/28/22)

Mr. Kevin Melton motioned to adopt minutes from the following TAC meetings, seconded Mr. John Bruce.

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Project Status

- 1) H.013870 Enterprise Boulevard Overlay Reconstruction in City of Lake Charles (CoLC)
 - Mr. Walter Council shared that Administrative Modification 30 was completed for this project, after increasing the cost and securing additional funds from City of Lake Charles
- 2) H.014370 Post Oak Road in City of Sulphur
 - Mr. Council shared that Administrative Modification 31 was completed for this project, after increasing the cost and securing additional funds from City of Sulphur
- 3) H. 014960 Calcasieu Parish Overlays Phase 1A
 - Mr. Council shared that there would be an amendment to the TIP FY 2019 – 22 to move to TIP FY 2023 – 26, as Amendment 35.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution 2022-18 Amending Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP) FY 2019-22 Amendment 35 (Aggregate Record Item No. 69)

Staff requested action to move construction phase of H.014960 Calcasieu Parish Overlays Phase 1A from TIP FY 2019 – 22 to TIP FY 2023 – 26 in FY 23. Public Review/Hearing process begins 8/2/22.

Mr. Kevin Melton motioned, to recommend to TPC, adoption of H.014960 Calcasieu Parish Overlays Phase 1A from TIP FY 2019 – 22 to TIP FY 2023 – 26, seconded by Mr. John Bruce. Mr. Pestello requested a vote on the motion which passed unanimously.

B. MPO 2045 Long Range Metropolitan Transportation Plan Roadway Evaluation (East Sulphur)

Mr. Steve Jiles requested action on the North and Central Lake Charles project in 2045 MTP that was deferred for discussion at previous TAC meeting (6/28/22), with the following recommendation:

- 1) N-54 McNair St Ext: Dead End to Wright Rd
 - a. Existing Project Plan: New Location/New 2 lane local roadway for \$1.5M
 - b. Final Recommendation:
 - Remove from 2045 MTP

Mr. Kevin Melton motioned to recommend, to the TPC, to remove from the 2045 MTP, seconded by Mr. John Bruce. Mr. Pestello requested a vote on the motion which passed unanimously.

C. MPO 2045 Long Range Metropolitan Transportation Plan Roadway Evaluation (South Central Lake Charles)

Mr. Steve Jiles requested action on the South Central Lake Charles projects in 2045 MTP, and received TAC final recommendation modifications that included the following:

- 1) C-73 Sale Rd: W. Prien Lake Rd to Lake St
 - a. Existing Project Plan: Capacity/Widen to 5 lanes for \$7.65M
 - b. Final Recommendation:
 - Remove from 2045 MTP
- 2) C-74 Sale Rd: Lake St to Ryan St
 - a. Existing Project Plan: Capacity/Widen to 4 lanes for \$4.15M
 - b. Final Recommendation:
 - Retain in 2045 MTP
 - Widen to 3 lanes
- 3) C-76 Sale Rd/Ryan St Intersection
 - a. Existing Project Plan: Capacity/Intersection improvements for \$1.25M
 - b. Final Recommendation:
 - Remove from 2045 MTP
- 4) C-10 Common St: Sale Rd to Prien Lake Rd
 - a. Existing Project Plan: Capacity/Widen to 5 lanes for \$5.15M
 - b. Final Recommendation:
 - Remove from 2045 MTP

- 5) C-65 Louisiana Ave: McNeese St to Enterprise Blvd
 - a. Existing Project Plan: Capacity/Center turn lane for \$2.3M
 - b. Final Recommendation:
 - Retain project plan in 2045 MTP
 - Increase cost to \$15M

- 6) C-86 W. McNeese St/Nelson Rd Intersection
 - a. Existing Project Plan: Capacity/Intersection improvements (dedicated turn lanes on McNeese St.) for \$3M
 - b. Final Recommendation:
 - Retain project plan in 2045 MTP

Mr. John Bruce motioned to recommend, to the TPC, all the presented adjustments to the 2045 MTP, seconded by Mr. Kevin Melton. Mr. Pestello requested a vote on the motion which passed unanimously.

Additionally, Mr. Melton and Mr. Cardone requested that staff add in the sponsor for these projects. Also, he requested a threshold for to easily understand if the current and projected ADT warrant a particular action.

- For instance, if the projected is 5,000, then that would rationalize a 3-lane widening versus a 5 lane.
- Mr. Carlos McCloud noted that another type of analysis is to determine the corridor length and then the vehicles miles traveled (VMT).
- Mr. Hollier noted that the next 2050 MTP will include these fundamental analysis approached of running a network model that provides a cost/benefit analysis based on capacity of roadway, Level of Service and cost against any other project. So essentially, the modeling measures the overall improvement from the project on the network

**D. MPO 2045 Long Range Metropolitan Transportation Plan Roadway Evaluation
(Moss Bluff)**

Mr. Steve Jiles requested action on the Moss Bluff projects in 2045 MTP, and received TAC final recommendation modifications that included the following:

- 1) C-69 N. Perkins Ferry Rd: Sam Houston Jones Pkwy to US 171
 - a. Existing Project Plan: Capacity/Widen to 4 lanes for \$34.65M
 - b. Final Recommendation:
 - Retain project plan in 2045 MTP
 - Obtain an engineering consultant to identify the appropriate scope and cost of this project.
 - Calcasieu Parish has identified this location as high priority and wants to be very involved in any additional study here.

- 2) C-34 Joe Miller Rd: N. Perkins Ferry Rd to US 171
 - a. Existing Project Plan: Capacity/Widen to 4 lanes for \$9.75M
 - b. Final Recommendation:
 - Reduce to 3 lanes
 - Add bike lane
 - Add roundabout at Joe Miller Rd and North Perkins Ferry Rd
 - Increase cost to \$10M

- 3) N-08 Gateway Dr Ext
 - a. Existing Project Plan: New Location/New 2 lane roadway for \$4.36M
 - b. Final Recommendation:
 - Remove from 2045 MTP

- 4) N-10 Gillis Cutoff Rd Ext
 - a. Existing Project Plan: New location/New 2 lane roadway for \$5.04M
 - b. Final Recommendation:
 - Retain project plan in the 2045 MTP

- 5) N-26 Tomahawk Dr Ext
 - a. Existing Project Plan: New location/New 2 lane roadway for \$4.64M
 - b. Final Recommendation:
 - Remove from 2045 MTP

- 6) N-86 Paul Bellon Rd Ext
 - a. Existing Project Plan: New location/New 2 lane roadway for \$22.9M
 - b. Final Recommendation:

- Remove from 2045 MTP

Mr. Gary Gobert motioned to recommend, to the TPC, all the presented adjustments to the 2045 MTP, seconded by Mr. Melton. Mr. Pestello requested a vote on the motion which passed unanimously.

E. MPO 2045 Long Range Metropolitan Transportation Plan Roadway Evaluation (Westlake)

Mr. Steve Jiles requested action on the Westlake projects in 2045 MTP, and received TAC final recommendation modifications that included the following:

- 1) C-06 Burton St/Old Spanish Trail: LA 108 (Cities Service Hwy) to Miller Ave
 - a. Existing Project Plan: Capacity/Widen to 4 lanes for \$23M
 - b. Final Recommendation:
 - Retain C-06 project plan in 2045 MTP, except removing the segment east of Trousdale Rd
- 2) C-30 I-10 Bridge: Calcasieu River
 - a. Existing Project Plan: Capacity/Widening of new bridge for \$1.3B
 - b. Final Recommendation:
 - Retain project in 2045 MTP
 - Move to Stage II
 - Widen I-210 to 6 lanes prior to the building of H.003931 Calcasieu River Bridge, to mitigate congestion during the I-10 bridge's construction phase.
- 3) C-54 LA 378 Corridor (Phillips Rd/ Davis Rd): Westwood Rd to West Fork Bridge
 - a. Existing Project Plan: Capacity/Widen to 5 lanes for \$11.65M
 - b. Final Recommendation:
 - Retain project plan in 2045 MTP
 - Conduct traffic study in consideration of a roundabout at the intersection of Davis Rd and Phillips Rd
 - Increase cost to \$15M
 - North of project segment, move and reconstruct the Calcasieu River West Fork Bridge 0.40 miles eastward, along with the widening of the short two-lane segment of LA 378 between the bridge and the LA 378 Spur.

- 4) C-55 LA 378 Corridor (Westwood Rd): John Stine to Phillips Rd
 - a. Existing Project Plan: Capacity/Widen to 4 lanes for \$12.34M
 - b. Final Recommendation:
 - Retain project plan in 2045 MTP
 - Add bike lane
 - Add roundabouts at the following: Westwood Rd @ Phillips Rd; Westwood Rd @ National Dr/Hudson Dr; Westwood Rd @ John Stine Rd
 - Increase cost to \$20M
 - Coordinate among multiple stakeholders: City of Westlake, Calcasieu Parish (CPTI), LaDOTD (H.009488.1 LA 378 Feasibility Study), and others.

- 5) C-99 John Stine Rd: Houston River Rd to Myrtle Springs Rd
 - a. Existing Project Plan: Capacity/Widening for \$6.1M
 - b. Final Recommendation:
 - Retain project plan in 2045 MTP

- 6) C-26 Houston River Rd: Anthony Ferry Rd t Guillory St
 - a. Existing Project Plan: Capacity/Widen to 4 lanes for \$20.4M
 - b. Final Recommendation:
 - Retain project plan in 2045 MTP
 - Add bike lane
 - Increase cost to \$40M
 - Move to Stage III

Mr. Bruce motioned to recommend, to the TPC, all the presented adjustments to the 2045 MTP, seconded by Mr. Gary Gobert. Mr. Pestello requested a vote on the motion which passed unanimously.

4. INFORMATION

A. I-14 Spur Status Report (Fort Polk/Chennault/Port of Lake Charles/Cameron Port)

Mr. Jiles explained a conceptual alignment for an I-14 spur, inside of the MPO boundary. Starting north, after overlapping U.S. 171, at northern end near Gillis, the route would proceed south past Calcasieu River, then west of LA 397, then southeast of Boone's corner, then further south towards Cameron Parish. A minimal impact of houses would be anticipated.

- Mr. Melton recommended consideration of brining the alignment closer or directly overlapping LA 397, near Chennault, as there was a future potential \$1 billion project that would benefit from a route of this magnitude.
- Mr. Pestello suggested there is some interests from military for access to Lake Charles infrastructure.

- Mr. Hollier noted the future Chennault Area Traffic Study (CATS) and Marion “Butch” Fox Southwest Louisiana Rail Study and Plan as future components to this I-14 spur concept.

B. Southwest Louisiana Rail Study and Plan

Mr. Hollier stated staff is working with tax assessor to identify old rail corridors and active rail corridors to see what might be brought back into functionality. This assessment includes adjacent real estate, like water towers, etc.

C. 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Review Update

Mr. Hollier noted that staff is nearly ready to do the scoring. He strongly suggested that if a project is not in the 2045 MTP, then it should be less of a priority, regardless of the scoring outcome.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Cardone motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Seth Woods. Mr. Pestello requested a vote on the motion which passed unanimously.



Nick Pestello
Chair



Michael Hollier
Executive/MPO Director